TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 31, 1989 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 21 totaled 341,880, up 2.7 percent from the comparable week of 1988 but 0.6 percent below the preceding week, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 4.5 percent in the West and 1.3 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of metallic ores were up 3,606 cars (34.1 percent), loadings of coal increased by 4,234 cars (3.4 percent) and motor vehicles and equipment loadings were up 2,580 cars (13.5 percent). Grain loadings were down 1,170 cars, (3.6 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 3 weeks of 1989 totaled 976,094, up 1.6 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 112,179 trailers and/or containers for the week ended January 21, up 2.4 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 3 weeks of 1989 was 308,337 trailers and/or containers, down 0.2 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended January 21 totaled 20.0 billion, 3.6 percent higher than the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 3 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 56.4 billion ton-miles, up 1.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 21, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING JANUARY 21, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	31,760	32,930	-3.6 %	31,646	.4 %
Farm Products, Ex Grain	2,454	3,758	-34.7	2,404	2.1
Metallic Ores	14,180	10,574	34.1	16,337	-13.2
Coal	127,968	123,734	3.4	126,530	1.1
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	12,172	11,166	9.0	11,863	2.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,224	9,761	-5.5	10,167	-9.3
Grain Mill Products	10,607	10,322	2.8	10,546	.6
Food & Kindred Products	9,077	9,905	-8.4	9,346	-2.9
Primary Forest Products	9,871	10,575	-6.7	9,625	2.6
Lumber & Wood Products	6,948	7,615	-8.8	6,626	4.9
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,698	11,494	-6.9	10,755	-.5
Chemicals	28,612	26,805	6.7	29,635	-3.5
Petroleum Products	5,099	4,666	9.3	5,471	-6.8
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,378	8,734	7.4	8,977	4.5
Coke	5,798	5,538	4.7	6,026	-3.8
Metals & Products	10,064	10,658	-5.6	9,937	1.3
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	21,693	19,113	13.5	21,368	1.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,383	9,246	1.5	9,405	-.2
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	11	17	-35.3	10	10.0
All Other Carloads	6,883	6,370	8.1	7,125	-3.4
Total	**341,880**	**332,981**	**2.7 %**	**343,799**	**-.6 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING JANUARY 21, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 3 WEEKS ENDING JANUARY 21, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**341,880**	**332,961**	**2.7 %**	**976,094**	**960,879**	**1.6 %**
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	65,791	67,634	-2.7	182,242	191,434	-4.8
Containers	46,388	41,942	10.6	126,095	117,660	7.2
Total	**112,179**	**109,576**	**2.4**	**308,337**	**309,094**	**-.2**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**20.0**	**19.3**	**3.6 %**	**56.4**	**55.6**	**1.4 %**

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